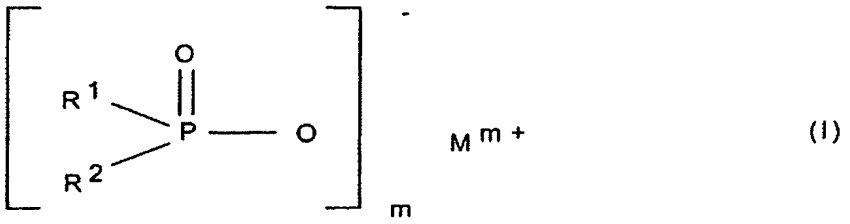
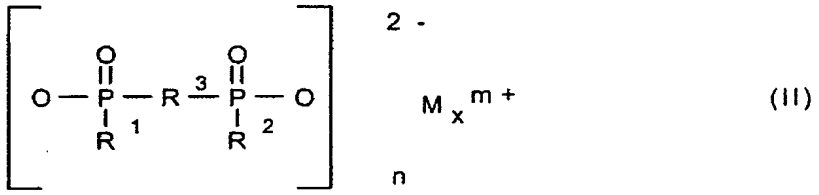
Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition ~~which comprises~~ comprising at least one thermosetting resin and a flame retardant selected from the group consisting of a phosphinic salt of the formula (I) a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) a polymer of the phosphinic salt of formula (I), a polymer of the diphosphinic salt of formula (II) and mixtures thereof (component A)



(I)



(II)

where

R^1,R^2 are identical or different and are ~~C_1-C_6-alkyl, linear or branched, or aryl~~ methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, tert-butyl, n-pentyl or phenyl;

R^3 is C_1-C_{10}-alkylene, linear or branched, C_6-C_{10}-arylene, -alkylarylene or –arylalkylene;

M is Mg, Ca, Al, Sb, Sn, Ge, Ti, Zn, Fe, Zr, Ce, Bi, Sr, Mn, Li, Na~~,~~ or K ~~or a protonated nitrogen base~~;

m is from 1 to 4;

n is from 1 to 4; and

x is from 1 to 4,

and as component B_1 a compound or a mixture of compounds selected from the group consisting of ~~a synthetic inorganic compound, a mineral product and mixtures thereof~~ red phosphorus, zinc oxide, zinc stannate, zinc hydroxystannate, zinc phosphate, zinc borate and zinc sulfide.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed claim 1, wherein R^3 is methylene, ethylene, n-propylene, isopropylene, n-butylene, tert-butylene, n-pentylene, n-octylene or n-dodecylene.

5. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein R^3 is phenylene or naphthylene.

6. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein R^3 is methylphenylene, ethylphenylene, tert-butylphenylene, methylnaphthylene, ethylnaphthylene or tert-butylnaphthylene.

7. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein R^3 is phenylmethylene, phenylethylene, phenylpropylene or phenylbutylene.

8. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 1, comprising from 0.1 to 30 parts by weight of component A, and from 0.1 to

100 parts by weight of component B, per 100 parts by weight of the thermoset composition.

9. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 1, comprising from 1 to 15 parts by weight of component A, and from 1 to 20 parts by weight of component B, per 100 parts by weight of the thermoset composition.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 1, further comprising as component C a compound selected from the group consisting of nitrogen compounds, phosphorus-nitrogen compounds, and mixtures thereof.

13. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 12, comprising from 0.1 to 30 parts by weight of component A from 0.1 to 100 parts by weight of component B, and from 0.1 to 100 parts by weight of component C, per 100 parts by weight of the thermoset composition.

14. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 12, comprising from 1 to 15 parts by weight of component A from 1 to 20 parts by weight of component B, and from 1 to 20 parts by weight of component C, per 100 parts by weight of the thermoset composition.

15. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein component C is selected from the group consisting of melamine, a melamine derivative of cyanuric acid, a melamine derivative of isocyanuric acid, a melamine salt, , melamine polyphosphate, melamine diphosphate, and melamine dicyandiamide a guanidine compound a condensation product of ethyleneurea and formaldehyde, and a carbodiimide.

16. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset ~~composition~~ article comprising a flame retardant composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thermoset composition is selected from the group consisting of a molding composition, a coating or a laminate~~ made from thermoset resins~~.

17. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 16, wherein the thermoset resins are unsaturated polyester resins or epoxy resins.

18. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing flame-retardant thermoset compositions as claimed in claim 1 comprising the steps of mixing a thermoset resin with component A, and at least one component B to form a mixture, and wet-pressing the mixture at a pressure of from 3 to 10 bar and at a temperature of from 20 to 60°C.

19. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing flame-retardant thermoset compositions as claimed in claim 1, comprising the steps of mixing a thermoset resin with component A, and at least one component B to form a mixture, and wet-pressing the mixture at a pressure of from 3 to 10 bar and at a temperature of from 80 to 150°C.

20. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing flame-retardant thermoset compositions as claimed in claim 1, comprising the steps of mixing a thermoset resin with component A, and at least one component B to form a mixture, and processing the mixture at a pressure of from 50 to 150 bar and at a temperature of from 140 to 160°C to give prepregs.

21. through 24. (Cancelled)

25. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 15, wherein the melamine salt is melamine phosphate.

26. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant composition as claimed in claim 12, wherein the guanidine compound is selected from the group consisting of guanidine carbonate, guanidine phosphate and guanidine sulfate.

27. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 18, wherein the wet-pressing step further comprises cold pressing.

28. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 19, wherein the wet pressing step further comprises warm or hot pressing.